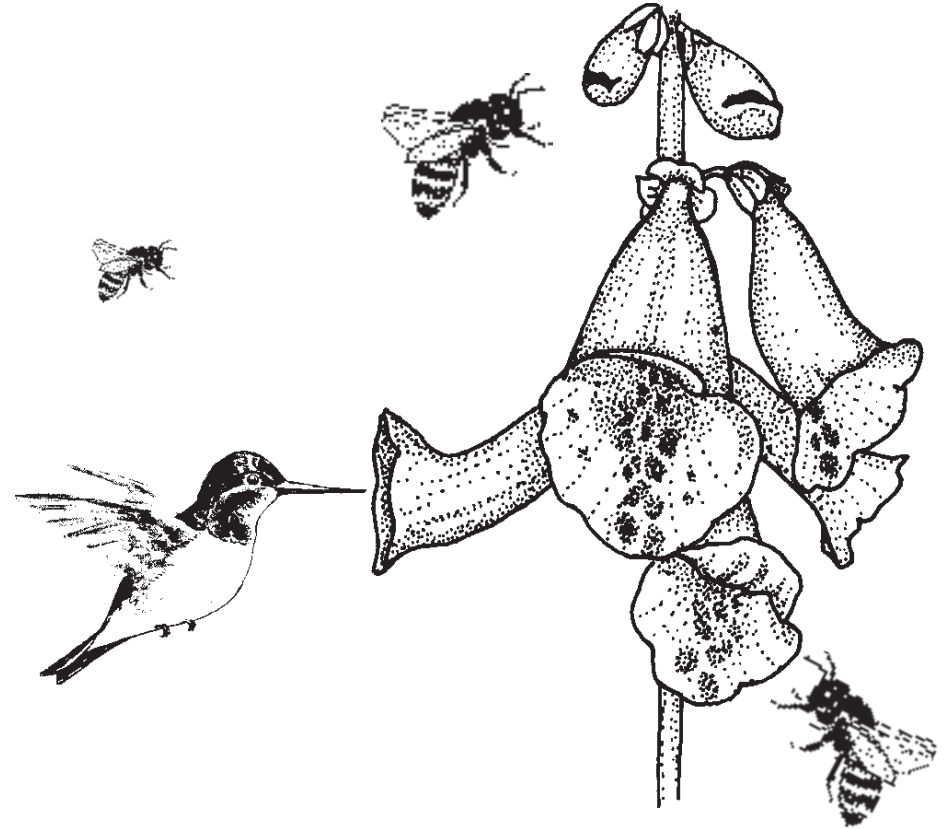


**CINCINNATI PARKS**

# ***NATURE ACTIVITIES***



**SPRING 2005**

We operate 5 nature centers and the Krohn Conservatory. Visit the centers for a program or just drop by. For more information about a specific center, call the naturalists at the numbers below, or call education administration at the Bettman Center.

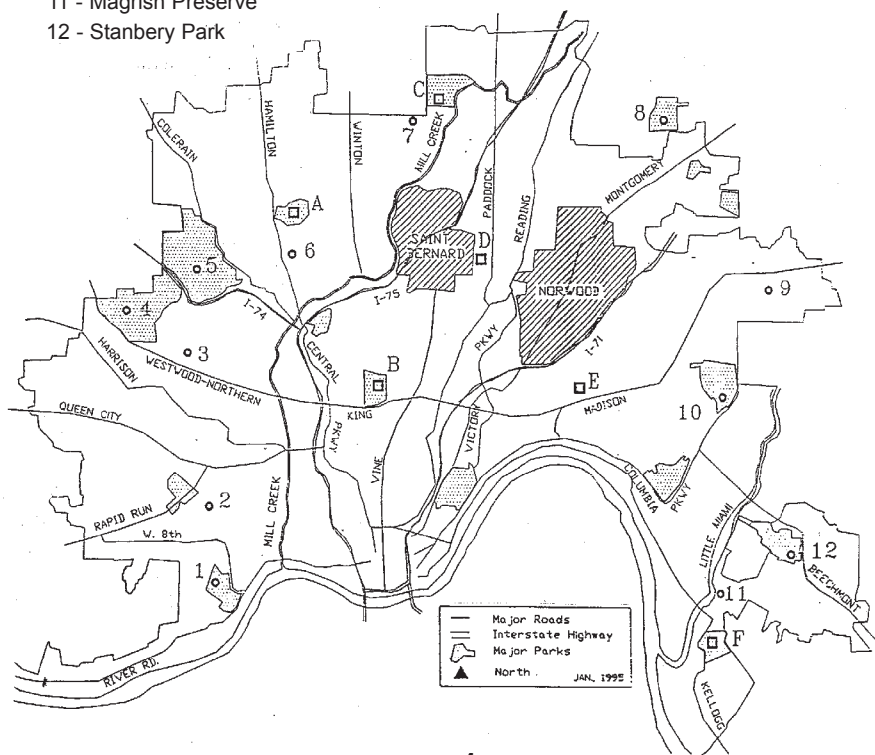
Avon Woods Nature Ctr.	4235 Paddock Road	861-3435
Bettman Natural Resources Ctr.	4 Beech Lane	321-6070
Caldwell Nature Ctr.	430 W. N. Bend Road	761-4313
California Woods Nature Ctr.	5400 Kellogg Avenue	231-8678
Krohn Conservatory	1501 Eden Park Dr.	421-5707
LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Ctr.	5400 Lanius Lane	542-2909

#### ○ Preserves & Parks with Trails

- 1 - Mt. Echo Park
- 2 - Glenway Woods
- 3 - Brodbeck Preserve
- 4 - McFarlan Woods (Mt. Airy)
- 5 - Mt. Airy Forest
- 6 - Buttercup Valley / Parker's Woods
- 7 - Seymour Preserve
- 8 - French Park
- 9 - Little Duck Creek
- 10 - Ault Park
- 11 - Magrish Preserve
- 12 - Stanbery Park

#### □ Nature Centers

- A - LaBoiteaux Woods
- B - Trillside (closed for construction)
- C - Caldwell
- D - Avon Woods
- E - Bettman
- F - California Woods



## Cincinnati Park Board Nature Activity Guide Spring 2005

Welcome to the natural heritage of your Cincinnati Parks. In the pages of this guide, you'll find Park Naturalist-led programs for the general public, suitable for all ages. Use this guide to locate those of greatest interest to yourself and your family. Be sure to check out the Cincinnati Parks' website:

[www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks)

See you out in the parks!

The Cincinnati Park Board's Education Services Division has a mission to educate people of all ages about the ecological relationships and the natural and historical resources in the Cincinnati Parks and Preserves and to assist in their protection and management.

Groups (garden clubs, schools, pre-schools, senior organizations, and scouts) may schedule a special program by calling **321-6070**.

Any group of 10 or more people is encouraged to get closer to nature through one of our weekday programs. Reservations are made on a first-call basis. Fees and information available; call **321-6070**.

Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request,  
call 352-3380 TTY

### Table of Contents

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# Public Hikes and Programs

*(Unless otherwise noted, public programs are FREE!)*

## March

### Maple in Mt. Airy

Sat., March 5, only one seating still available:

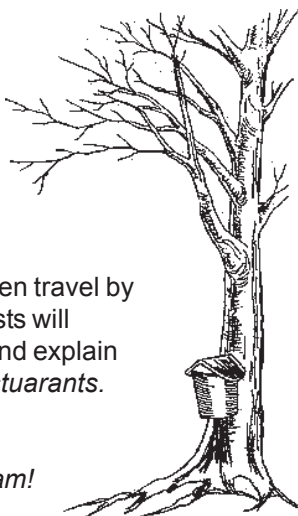
**10:00 a.m.** (total program ends at 12:15)

Start with a pancake breakfast at Oak Ridge Lodge, then travel by haywagon to the Arboretum, where costumed naturalists will demonstrate tree tapping and historic syrup-making, and explain maple mysteries. *Breakfast sponsored by Frisch's restaurants.*

Fee: \$7.00 per person. Reservations required.

For further information and reservations, call 321-6070.

*Reserve your seat early for this popular one-day program!*



### Spring is Coming

Sat., March 12, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Alms Park

Climb out of your cozy winter cocoons and come to the park for a mood-lifting search for spring. A park naturalist will lead you in a quest for those first thrilling harbingers. Meet at the pavilion. Call 321-6070, ext. 16. for more information.



### Pancakes in the Woods

Sun., March 13, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

California Woods Nature Preserve

Celebrate the tapping of the maple trees! Enjoy pancakes and sausage grilled by celebrity chefs and listen to the story of sugaring. All proceeds benefit California Woods and Magrath Riverlands Preserve. Fee: \$6.00: adults, \$3.00: children.

Reservations NOT required. Call 231-8678 for information.

### “A Bit O’ Green”

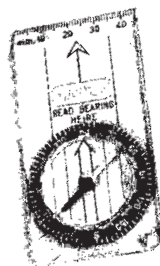
Thurs., March 17, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.- Owl’s Nest Park

A nice leisurely stroll will be the goal for this chance to look for signs of spring. We will be looking for early wildflowers and other things starting to green up. Walk will be geared toward seniors but all adults are welcomed. Meet at the parking lot off of Pogue Ave. Call 761-4313 for more information.

## French Park Patterns

Sat., March 19, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – French Park

Enjoy the subtle colors, bark textures and branch patterns that are at their best before the trees leaf out. Gather at the parking lot at the top of the hill for a brisk hike of almost two miles. We’ll slow down to examine swelling buds and other signs of spring, and take a short break for the history of French Park. For more information, call 542-2909.



## Introduction to Orienteering

Sun., March 20 - Ault Park

Start any time between 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m.

We’ll teach you the basics, then you’ll use a map and compass to navigate to “controls” placed in various locations around the park. Beginner (white), advanced beginner (yellow), intermediate (orange), and advanced (brown) courses will be available. We’ll also have a stroller and wheelchair accessible course, and a treasure hunt for kids. Fee: \$1.00 per person.

Preregistration appreciated. Meet at the picnic area near the soccer field. Call 861-3435 for information and registration.

## April

### Spring Fling

Sat., April 2, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. - LaBoiteaux Woods

Come and rejoice in the end of winter and explore the invigorating sights and sounds of spring with a naturalist led “Walk, Look and Listen” hike through our beautiful LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Preserve. Reservations requested. Call 542-2909 for information.

### Wild Edibles

Sat., April 9, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Avon Woods

Come see what Mother Nature has in her cupboards as we explore the preserve. From nuts and berries to twigs and shoots, we’ll search out and sample some of nature’s tastiest treats. Reservations recommended; please call 861-3435 for more information.



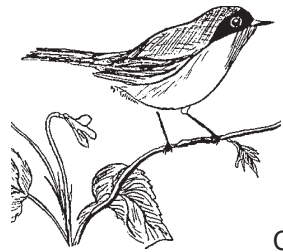
### Neighborhood Nature Foray

Sun., April 10, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. - Rawson Woods

Enjoy an early spring hike through Cincinnati Parks’ gated 10.5- acre Rawson Woods Bird Preserve in Clifton. Learn about survival in nature and see for yourself how our native plants struggle against invasives. Meet at the corner of Middleton and McAlpin Avenues. Call 321-6070, ext. 16 for more information.

## POETRY SQUARES.... Nature Nerds, Recite!

Tuesday Nights, April 12 & May 17, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center

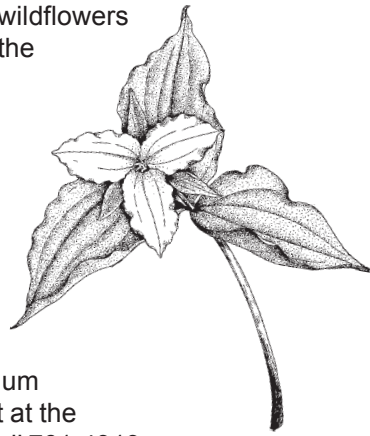


Poetry creates atmosphere that leads us where we've forgotten to tread. Tread softly with us, twice this spring and again this fall. Rhyme in metered time or not at all. Bring a piece you're working on or a favorite, known or rare. But as a family friendly function, please spare too graphic a flare. We'll explore thoughts together & share for the well being of our natural world, however square. Call 761-4313 for information.

## Wildflower Wandering

Sat., April 16, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon - California Woods Nature Preserve

Spring is the time for flowers! Join us at California Woods as we hike through the forest looking at the many spring wildflowers in bloom. Learn their names and a little bit about the flowers themselves. Reservations requested. Call 231-8678 for information.



## Wildflower Wow

Sun., April 17, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Caldwell Nature Center

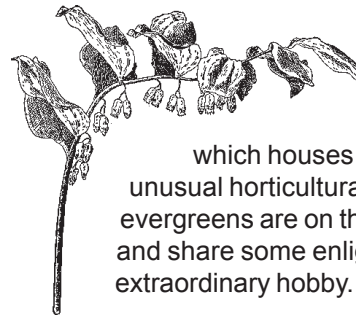
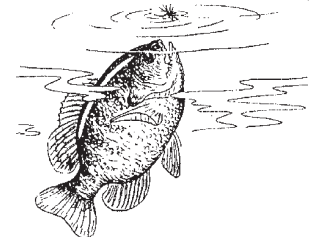
Be prepared to be wowed by the beautiful wildflowers Caldwell has to offer. We will go on a lengthy hike through the preserve searching for Spring Beauty, Dutchman's Breeches, and Trillium (just to name a few). Wear sturdy footwear. Meet at the nature center building. Reservations requested. Call 761-4313 for reservations or information. Want a sneak preview of what you might find during either of the wildflower programs above? Check out Cincinnati Parks' Wildflowers of California Woods website at [www.cincinnatiature.org](http://www.cincinnatiature.org)

## May

### Hooked on Fishing

Sat., May 7, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon - Burnet Woods

Join us for a fun family fishing day. Bring your own equipment or use a cane pole from the nature center. A fishing license is NOT required, but reservations are. Call 542-2909 for more information and reservations. Check in at Trailside Nature Center.



## A Trip Through Hauck

Sun., May 8, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Hauck Botanic Gardens

Walk through this tucked away 8-acre preserve which houses Cornelius Hauck's amazing collection of rare and unusual horticultural species. Over 900 species of trees, shrubs, and evergreens are on the grounds. We will guide you through the garden and share some enlightening stories about this man and his extraordinary hobby. Call 321-6070 ext. 16 for more information.

## Green Up Day

Sat., May 14, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Magrath Riverlands Preserve

Join your neighbors to green up and clean up a preserve along the scenic Little Miami River. Meet in the parking lot off Salem Rd. near its southern (Kellogg Ave.) end. Old clothes are a must. Call Jim at 321-6070 ext. 15 for more information.

## Hip, Herp, Hooray!

Sat., May 21, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. - Buttercup Valley

Turtles, toads and the like will be the focus as we search for different herptiles. Find out their unique characteristics as we meet animal ambassadors of their kind. Wear waterproof footwear for hiking along the creek to look for different specimens. Meet at the end of Stanford Drive (off Hamilton Ave.). Call 761-4313 for more information.

## Wetland Wilds

Sun., May 22, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. - McEvoy Park

Come join us on a hike through one of Cincinnati's most recently restored wetland communities. On the walk, we'll discuss using native plants in the home landscape and the benefits they provide to local wildlife. For more information, please call 861-3435.



## Lazy Days Are Here Again

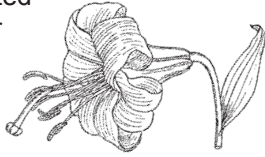
Sat., May 28, 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. - Burnet Woods Lake

Come and enjoy a lazy day on the water at Burnet Woods learning the basics of canoeing. Adventurers of all ages are invited to take a turn on the paddles as we explore the aquatic community that shares this beautiful lake with us. Space is limited, so make your reservations soon! For information and reservations, please call 861-3435.



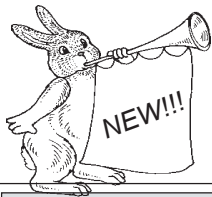
## Krohn Conservatory

Eden Park's Krohn Conservatory is a nationally recognized showcase of more than 3,500 plant species from all over the world. The Palm, Tropical, Desert, and Orchid houses exhibit permanent displays of exotic plants in natural settings, complete with a 20' rainforest water-fall. The Display House features the stunning floral shows listed below. Call **421-5707** for more information on any event below. Free admission; donations encouraged. Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



### Calendar of Events at Krohn Conservatory

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
Spring Meadows	Krohn Conservatory	March 19 - April 24
The Butterfly Show	Krohn Conservatory	May 7 - June 19
Preview Sale	Krohn Conservatory	March 1
End of Show Sale	Krohn Conservatory	March 2
Spring Floral Show	Krohn Conservatory	March 19 - April 24
Spring Orchid Display	Krohn Conservatory	March 19 - 20



### Attention Seniors

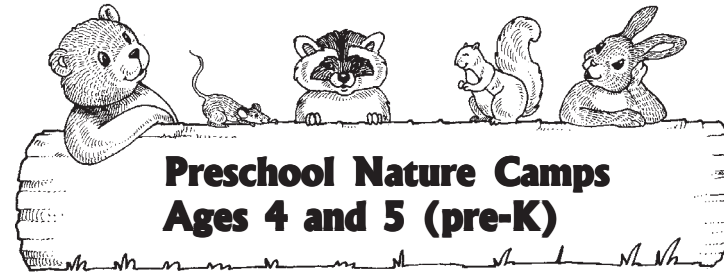


#### Seniors Walking Club

Get out and enjoy the beauty of the woods in spring. Join a naturalist for a stroll along gentle woodland trails to see nature's wonders unfold. After our walk, we'll discuss our discoveries over light refreshments. **Free.** Call 861-3435 for more information.

Wednesday, March 23, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Meet at Avon Woods Nature Center  
 Wednesday, April 20, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Location to be announced  
 Wednesday, May 25, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Location to be announced

## Preschool programs



Children 4 or older (no 3 year olds please) should sign-up early for these popular Preschool Camps. A different nature topic is presented each week through games, crafts, stories, music, puppets and mini-hikes.

**To register:** complete and mail in the form on page 14 by the deadline date. Registrations are first-come, first served, and spaces are limited.  
**NOTE:** Any session not having at least 10 paid registrations received by mail by the deadline will be cancelled.

#### California Woods

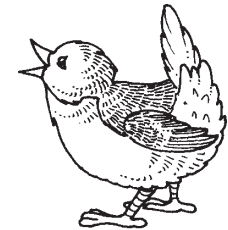
Mondays, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.  
 April 4, 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9  
 (Registration due April 1)  
 Cost: \$30.00 city residents  
 \$35.00 non-residents  
 (Per child, per 6-week session)

#### Avon Woods

Wednesdays, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
 April 20, 27 May 4, 11, 18, & 25  
 (Registration due April 13)  
 Cost: \$30.00 city residents  
 \$35.00 non-residents  
 (Per child, per 6-week session)

#### LaBoiteaux Woods

Fridays, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.  
 April 8, 15, 29, May 6, 13, 20  
 (Registration due April 1)  
 Cost: \$30.00 city residents  
 \$35.00 non-residents  
 (Per child, per 6-week session)



### Preschool Groups

In addition to our award-winning programs for elementary school classes, Cincinnati Parks nature centers offer fun, participatory programs for Preschools, Day Care Centers, and Head Start Programs. Call 321-6070 or the Nature Center nearest you for more information.

## Programs for Children age 5 - 18

### Nature Art Classes at LaBoiteaux Woods

Looking for a fun imaginative way for your child to learn about the natural world and express his / her artistic side? Children explore simple concepts from nature while creating works of art. For more information, call 542-2909.



#### For ages 6 - 8 years

*Mondays, 3:45 - 5:15 p.m.*

*April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23*

#### For ages 9 - 13 years

*Thursdays, 3:45 - 5:15 p.m.*

*April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26*

**Fee:** city residents: \$40.00; non-residents: \$45.00  
(Per child, per 8-week session)

**To register:** Complete and mail in the form on page 14 by April 1.

### Parents' Day Off

*Grades K - 4*

*Tues., March 29, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center*

Need some extra time to do Spring cleaning or gardening? Bring your kids for some nature fun. Activities will be focused on animal babies and other Spring events through crafts, games, hikes and stories. Bring a bag lunch with a drink and come prepared for the weather. Activities are indoors and outdoors. Call 761-4313 for more information.

**Fee:** city residents: \$10.00; non-residents: \$15.00

**To register:** Complete and mail in form on page 14 by March 22.



### Teen Service Day

*Ages 13 - 18*

*Saturday, April 16, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.*

*Caldwell Nature Center*

Does your teenagers need community service hours for credit at school? Do they like to work outdoors with groups of other teenagers? Do they like pizza? If you answered yes to all three, we have just the opportunity for them!

Outdoor projects will include painting, weeding, and invasive plant removal. Activities will occur rain or shine. A fee of \$3.00 will pay for the pizza lunch. For more information, please call 761-4313.

## Afterschool Adventures for grades K - 3 (and orienteering for grades 4-6!)

**Fee:** \$5.00 per child, per program.

**To register:** complete and mail in the form on page 14.

Reservations required for all sessions. Program size is limited; reservations are first-come. Programs not receiving a minimum number of registrations will be cancelled.

### "Egg"ceptional Eggs

*Wed., March 16, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center*

Join us for an "egg" citing time! We will learn the importance of eggs and see how they are not just for eating. We will color a few with natural dyes and make blown eggs. We will also learn about different kinds of eggs out in nature.

Call 761-4313 for more information.

### Local Wildlife

*Tues., March 22, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - Avon Woods*

From slithering snakes and tiny toads to those rowdy raccoons, we'll learn about the native wildlife that lives in our neighborhoods. Call 861-3435 for more information.



### The Wilds of Weather

*Wed., April 13, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center*

Does air have weight? Can people make lightning? Come join in on the fun as we experiment and find out about weather phenomena. We will make a weather-predicting tool and participants will be involved in different demonstrations and hands-on activities. Call 761-4313 for more information.



### Orienteering: Treasure Hunt! for Grades 4-6

*Thurs., April 21, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - Avon Woods*

Orienteering is an exciting sport. You'll have to plan a route through the woods to reach your goal. With map and compass in hand, you'll hunt for natural landmarks to find your way to a series of markers. These might be clues to a hidden treasure. Dress for the outdoors. Call 861-3435 for more information.

### Snakes, Turtles and Toads... Oh My!

*Wed., May 11, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center*

Scaly, slimy and just plain cool, there are many different kinds of herps. Come discover what a "herp" is and meet a few up close and personal. Dress for the weather, and plan for muddy shoes. We will go on a hike to search for some of these unusual animals. Call 761-4313 for more information.

## A Habitat For Homeschoolers

**Fee:** \$5.00 per person per program; Programs not receiving a minimum number of registrations by the deadline will be cancelled.

### Finding Your Way - Caldwell Nature Center

*Ages 9 – 14; Thurs., March 10, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

This fast paced program will have morning activities focused on learning and testing mapping skills including topographic maps. The afternoon will be spent learning how to use a compass, understanding directions by natural signs and the basics of orienteering. Activities will be held indoors and outdoors. Registrations due by March 7. Call 761-4313 for more information.

### Weather You Like It or Not - Ault Park

*Ages 4 – 8; Mon., April 4, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon*

What makes it rain? Does air have weight? These questions and more will be explored as we learn the basics of weather and the conditions that affect our weather. All activities are outdoors. Registrations due by March 30. For more information, call 761-4313.

### Flower Facts: From Seeds to Trees - Avon Woods

*Ages 8 – 12; Tues., April 19, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

This fun and active program will examine the mysteries of the plant kingdom. We will explore life cycles, seasonal changes, photosynthesis, and how flowers function and form seeds. Bring a sack lunch and dress for the weather. Reservations required by April 12. Call 861-3435 for more information.

### Stream Studies - French Park

*Ages 5 – 10; Mon., May 9, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon*

What do water canaries and a green stream have to do with water quality? Come join us as we leisurely meander up the middle of the stream on the search for macroinvertebrates and perform water quality tests. Registrations due by May 4. Call 761-4313 for more information.

### Ordovician Fishin' - McFarlan Woods

*Ages 8 – 12; Tues., May 17, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

Join us on a journey through time as we explore the geology of the Cincinnati region. The emphasis of this program will be the Ordovician fossils of the famous Cincinnati Arch. We'll examine the remains of the creatures that once lived here, how these fossils formed and where we find them today. Materials will be provided so students can create their own fossil collection. Bring a sack lunch and dress for a mess. For more information and reservations, please call 861-3435 by May 10.



## Summer DayCamp Preview

We know that many Cincinnati families plan their vacations around Cincinnati Parks summer daycamps. To help your summer scheduling, here's a sneak preview of the upcoming summer camps. *Please do NOT register for camps from this brochure! The full camp brochure with more detailed information, camp fees, and registration forms will be mailed out at the beginning of April.*

*If you are not already on our mailing list, and wish to receive a camp brochure, please call 321-6070.*



## NatureCamps out in the Parks

**9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Mon. - Fri.; for children ages 5 (post-K) to 10 years**

June 13 - 17 – Mt. Airy Forest  
June 20 - 24 – French Park  
June 27 - July 1 – Ault Park  
July 5 - 8 – Rapid Run Park  
July 5 - 8 – Caldwell Park

July 11 - 15 – McFarlan Woods  
July 18 - 22 – Ault Park  
July 25 - 29 – French Park  
Aug. 1 - 5 – Stanbery Park



## Preschool Discovery Mornings

**For Preschoolers ages 3½, 4 and 5**

Discovery Mornings are a shorter camp (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.) running Tuesday-Friday mornings at the same parks and weeks as the NatureCamps above.

## Nature-Next-Door

*Sponsored by the Ladislav and Vilma Segoe Family Foundation and by Saks*



Park Naturalists will again visit neighborhood parks in low-income areas with free fun, games, crafts and activities related to a series of nature themes. Neighborhood children are welcome to drop in anytime *from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*, come and go, or stay as long as they wish. Agencies serving neighborhood children may schedule special times for their summer groups by calling **321-6070**.

Mondays: Dyer Sprayground  
Tuesdays: Dempsey Park  
Wednesdays: Bond Hill Playground

Thursdays: M.L. King Park  
Fridays: Inwood Park

## Adventure and Art Camps at Park Nature Centers

Avon Woods Nature Center  
California Woods Nature Preserve  
LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Center



The various Adventure and Art Camps spend 4 - 6 days helping children within a particular age range explore nature or outdoor skills. All camps are day camps but some for the older children may include a "grand finale" overnight. Art camps use art as a way to connect with the natural world. *Please do NOT register for camps from this brochure! The full camp brochure will be mailed out at the beginning of April.* Camp times vary; call **321-6070** for additional information.

Camps at Avon Woods	Dates	Ages
Young Naturalists - Session 1	June 27 - 30	4 - 6
Young Naturalist - Session 2	July 25 - 28	4 - 6
Nature Explorers	June 20 - 24	7 - 9
Outdoor Skills - Session 1	June 13 - 17	10 - 13
Outdoor Skills - Session 2	July 18 - 22	10 - 13
Camps at California Woods	Dates	Ages
Preschool Nature - Session 1	June 20 - 23	4 - 5 ( no kind.)
Preschool Nature - Session 2	August 1 - 4	4 - 5 ( no kind.)
Nature Detectives	June 13 - 17	5 - 7
Nature Art & Theater - Session 1	June 27 - July 1	6 - 8
Nature Art & Theater - Session 2	July 18 - 22	6 - 8
Outdoor Survival - Session 1	July 11 - 15	8 - 10
Outdoor Survival - Session 2	July 25 - 29	8 - 10
Archaeology Adventure	July 5 - 8	10 - 13
Camps at LaBoiteaux Woods	Dates	Ages
Young Naturalists	June 20 - 23	4 - 6
Nature Art	June 27 - July 1	9 - 12
Nature Art & Theater	July 5 - 8	6 - 8
Teen Service	July 11 - 15	high school
Nature Explorers	July 18 - 22	7 - 9
Outdoor Skills	July 25 - 29	10 - 13
Nature Art	August 1 - 5	6 - 8

## Program Registration

One child and one program per application please. Feel free to make copies as needed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age/Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Center \_\_\_\_\_

Program Title \_\_\_\_\_

Session / Time Desired (if more than one offered) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to: *Treasurer, City of Cincinnati*)

I hereby release and save harmless the Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners and its employees from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, or other claims arising out of this program. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the medical personnel selected by the program director to administer treatment, including hospitalization, for my child as named above.

Signature of  
parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print parent/guardian name)

*If your child has medical problems or allergies, including food allergies, please attach a note informing us of the potential problem.*

**To register, mail the form above with payment to:**

**Bettman Natural Resources Center  
Cincinnati Park Board  
4 Beech Lane  
Cincinnati, OH 45208**







CINCINNATI PARK BOARD  
BETTMAN NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER  
4 BEECH LANE  
CINCINNATI OH 45208

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